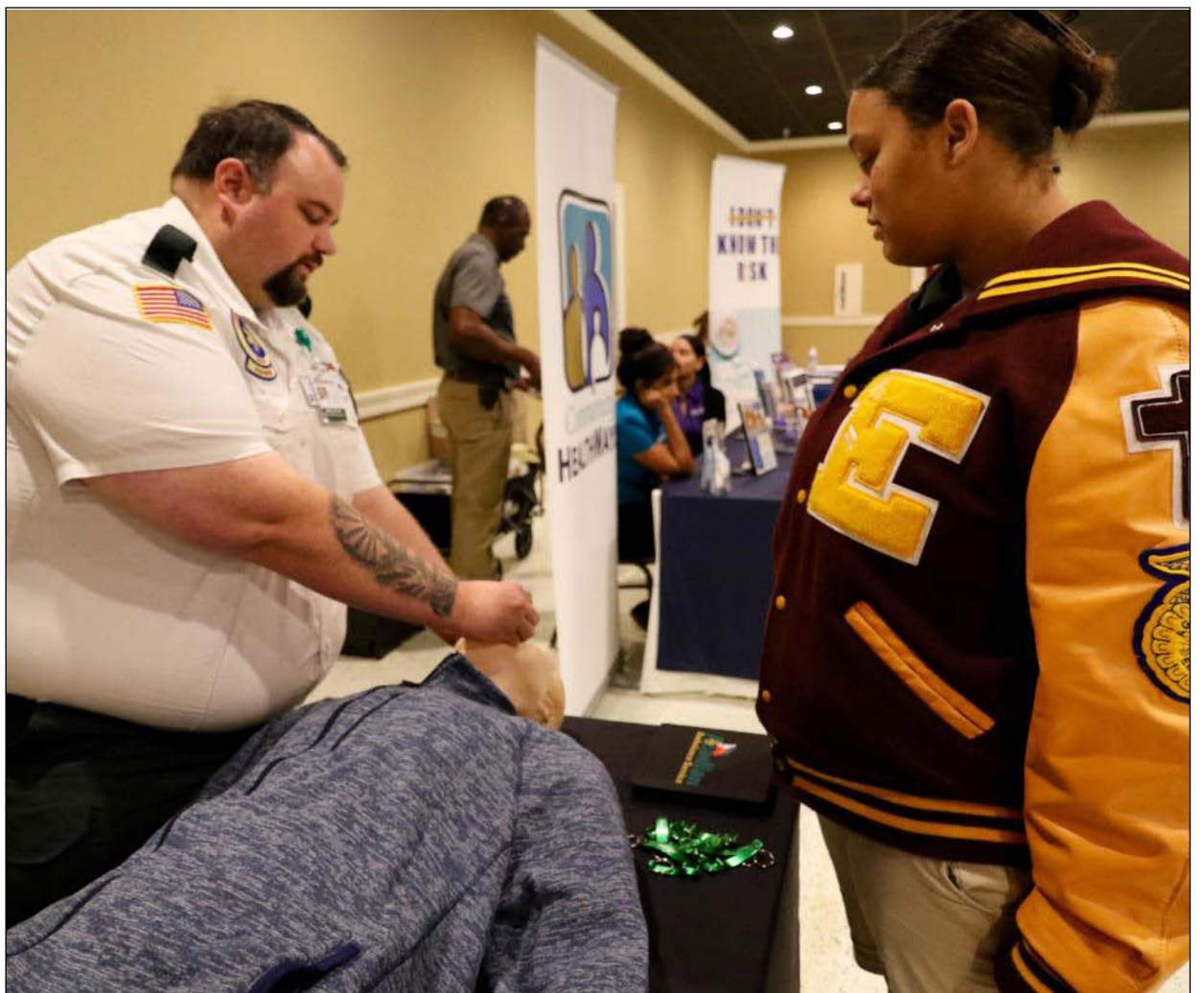


LOCAL



Doris Maricle/American Press

Peyton Boozer, program coordinator for Southwest Louisiana Do No Harm, gives out free Narcan to those attending an opioid prevention program Thursday in Jennings. The event, hosted by the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program and Ochsner Lafayette General Hospital, was held as part of National Rural Health Day.



Doris Maricle/American Press

Jeremy Brown, quality implementation coordinator for Acadian Ambulance, shows 17-year-old Cati Ardoin, of Elton, how to use Narcan to reverse or reduce the effects of opioids Thursday during an opioid prevention event in Jennings. The program focused on the opioid epidemic and addressed barriers to treatment for substance use disorders, including opioid use disorders.

Opioid prevention event focuses on ways to deter substance abuse

By Doris Maricle
American Press

JENNINGS – As the country faces devastating drug problems, community leaders in Jeff Davis Parish are working on ways to educate others on the crisis and address substance abuse issues.

During an opioid prevention event hosted Thursday by the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program and Ochsner Lafayette General Hospital, the group discussed ways to increase awareness in an effort to stop substance abuse.

There is currently a prescription drug and opioid epidemic, as well as teen vaping epidemic going all across America, according to Karen Wyble, vice president of Regional Community Affairs at Ochsner Lafayette General.

“Drug overdose is now the leading cause of accidental death in the United States,” she said. “The CDC estimated that there were over 112,000 drug overdose deaths in the United States during a 12-month period ending in May 2023 - the highest number ever recorded. This issue is not getting better, it’s getting worse.”

“We want to be able to help the community and families understand there are services available to them and that they won’t have to stand alone,” she continued. “Many times they do not talk about the problem because they are embarrassed because of the stigma

Dana Williams, chief executive officer of Ochsner American Legion Hospital in Jennings, said Jeff Davis Parish has one of the highest rates of emergency response to non-fatal overdoses in the country.

associated with a drug problem. We are here to help engage and get people aware of those services.”

The hospital received a \$1 million Rural Opioid Implementation grant to help promote prevention, treatment and recovery programs for patients and families. The grant was the only federal grant awarded to the state.

Dana Williams, chief executive officer of Ochsner American Legion Hospital in Jennings, said Jeff Davis Parish has one of the highest rates of emergency response to non-fatal overdoses in the country.

“This tells us there is a tremendous substance abuse problem in our area,” Williams said. “And programs like these can help bring the community together to prevent deaths and reduce drug abuse.”

The event featured guest speakers, a panel discussion and exhibits on drug abuse and prevention. Free narcan was also given out.

“This is about awareness and making sure everyone understands in hopes

that people with addictions, including opioids and fentanyl, know what services are available for them when they are ready to take that next step,” District Attorney Lauren Heinen said.

Sheriff Ivy Woods said the main thing is to educate people about the opioid and fentanyl problems and how they affect people’s lives.

Dr. Amanda Logue, chief medical officer for Ochsner Lafayette General, said the goal of the event was to increase awareness of opioid addictions and educate the community on prevention, treatment and recovery services available to families who are suffering with addictions.

“This is the first of what we hope are many community programs to provide to families with the intent to reduce opioid addictions and ensure treatment and care to our families in need,” Logue said. “Our campaign, ‘Be There,’ is to offer our families with addiction a second chance.”

Addressing those in attendance, including nearly 80 local high school

students, Noble Ellington, director of the Governor’s Office of Rural Revitalization, said, “I hope that you take what you hear today to heart and realize that that’s the wrong road. That’s not the direction you should want to go. It can really mess up your life and make you a very unhappy person over the period of having to get over some type of drug or opioid habit.”

Rep. Troy Romero urged the young people in attendance to share what they learn with their peers.

“I hope you take in what you learn today and tell your friends, who may not be here with you today,” Romero said. “You can spread the word. You can help them understand this horrible epidemic we are in with opioids. It’s not just in Louisiana or the United States, it’s world wide and it’s important we educate everyone, especially the young people, so they can understand how important it is to try to curb this issue.”

Stephen Hill, a motivational speaker and author from New York, shared his personal struggles with drug addiction and recovery.

Hill, who began using and dealing drugs as a freshman in high school, was arrested multiple times on drug charges, struggled with unsuccessful attempts at rehab and watched as friends died from their own drug abuse. He has now been sober for more than a decade.

BRIEFLY

Jeff Davis reading program

Jeff Davis Parish children and teens between the ages of 3-14 have until Nov. 30 to enroll in the “Reading with Rougarou” program.

For each book read, the students will earn a chance to win a bicycle in December.

Children, ages 3-7, will receive one entry for every 20 juvenile nonfiction books read. Those ages 8-14 will receive one entry for every three chapter books read. The more books a youth reads, the more chances they have to win the bicycle.

Gumbo cook-off and fundraiser

Enter now to be named the #1 seafood or chicken and sausage gumbo cook and help people with Parkinson’s and other disabilities live well. Mark the calendar. Enjoy all-you-can-eat gumbo on Saturday, Dec. 2, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Pinederosa Park in Westlake. The Progress with Parkinson’s group is hosting the fundraiser that will include a DJ, live auction and toy drive. Proceeds go to Parkinson’s support and education. Cooking teams pay \$50 to enter a two-gallon minimum of gumbo. Pay \$10 for all-you-can-eat gumbo. For details, email Rick Johnston at at pwp.rick@gmail.com or text 337-842-2211.



East Texas Livestock, Inc

893 State Hwy 7 West • Crockett, Texas 75835
936-544-2246

Weekly Market Report

Date: November 14, 2023 Volume: 3029

Slaughter Cows Slaughter Bulls: \$89.00 to \$120.00

Canners \$68.00 to \$83.00

Boning/Utility... \$84.00 to \$91.00

Cutters \$92.00 to \$100.00

(Some lower grading or lower yielding cows and bulls fall below these figures)

Bred Cows: \$760.00 to \$1850.00

Cow/Calf Pairs \$1100.00 to \$2000.00

Feeder Calves

Large Frame #1 Large Frame #1

Feeder Steers/Bull Feeder Heifers

150 to 200 lbs..... \$2.28 to \$3.02 \$2.02 to \$2.90

205 to 300 lbs..... \$2.45 to \$3.40 \$2.30 to \$3.25

305 to 400 lbs..... \$2.38 to \$3.36 \$2.24 to \$2.82

405 to 500 lbs..... \$2.30 to \$3.12 \$1.89 to \$2.72

505 to 600 lbs..... \$2.14 to \$2.75 \$1.82 to \$2.61

605 to 800 lbs..... \$2.06 to \$2.33 \$1.68 to \$2.34

Some lower quality and hard-to-place cattle fall below these figures.

Total Sellers: 272 Order Buyers: 18 Packer Buyers: 9

Weekly Summary

Compared to last week’s closing price averages, all feeder steers and heifers weight class average prices ended fully \$5 to \$7 higher. The slaughter cow figures continued under pressure and weakened by about \$4. Slaughter bulls remain firm with last week’s prices.

It appears the feeder buyers are turning their backs on a roller coaster feeder board and are going with their gut feelings about securing inventory for the wheat grazing country.

THERE WILL BE NO SALE NEXT TUESDAY DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS WE WILL REOPEN FOR THE NOVEMBER 28th SALE

Paul Craycraft East Texas Livestock Case Craycraft
936-545-5251 936-544-2246 936-545-5045

Easttexaslivestock.com



BERKEN FOR BESE

ENDORSED BY THE LOUISIANA REPUBLICAN PARTY

Paid for by Kevin Berken for Louisiana

